

SMALL THINGS MATTER

It's a big rig, but small things can stop it from moving tons of dirt. So here are two PM pointers you can use to keep your grader working.

Stop Cylinder Hose Rub

Hydraulic hoses that cross over the grader's centershift cylinder get a raw deal. The hoses rub against the cylinder when the blade's circle is raised, lowered or rotated. All that rubbing can wear holes in the hoses.

Hoses let fluid leak, then there's not enough hydraulic pressure to operate the blade's circle. Construction operations come to a halt.

So, eyeball the hoses for wear marks. See any? If so, loosen the clamp where the hoses are mounted on the cylinder. Then reposition the hoses out of harm's way and tighten the clamp.



Pulley Lubing

The grease fitting for the grader's fan bearing is behind the engine's screen door on the vehicle's roadside.

Without lube, the bearing seizes up. Then the blade stops turning, letting the engine and transmission overheat.

So keep the fan pulley bearings lubed. During scheduled services, give the fitting four to five shots of grease.

